

VZCZCXRO2572  
OO RUEHCN RUEHGH RUEHVC  
DE RUEHBJ #3466/01 1421024  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 221024Z MAY 07  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8191  
INFO RUEHOO/CHINA POSTS COLLECTIVE  
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 1565  
RUEHKH/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 0102  
RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA 0490  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 3139  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 4353  
RUEHPA/AMEMBASSY PRAIA 0010  
RUEHDG/AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO 0051  
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BEIJING 003466

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PREL](#) [ETRD](#) [SU](#) [UK](#) [CV](#) [DR](#) [IN](#) [PE](#) [GM](#)

SUBJECT: MAY 22 MFA PRESS BRIEFING: SED, INDIAN GENERAL'S  
VISIT, HUMAN RIGHTS, SUDAN, VISITS

BEIJING 00003466 001.2 OF 002

11. Key points at the May 22 MFA Press Conference were:

-- Jiang outlined Vice Premier Wu Yi's planned schedule of meetings, including with the President, during the upcoming SED session in Washington.

-- The visit by India's Army Chief of Staff aims to improve bilateral military ties.

-- The May 15 EU-China Human Rights Dialogue was "positive" and "constructive."

-- The Spokeswoman had no information in response to questions about a visit by EAP A/S Hill, the detention of AIDS activists Hu Jia and Zeng Jinyan, an investigation into the death of AmCit Darren Russell or reports that Chinese-made toothpaste in the Dominican Republic was found to be contaminated.

-- Reporters asked further questions about dam construction in Sudan, British FM Beckett's comments on Hong Kong's reforms and about a possible China-Peru FTA, with little response.

-- Germany's President and Thailand's Prime Minister will visit China separately in the next ten days.

SED: Wu Yi's Meeting Schedule Announced  
-----

12. At the May 22 regular press briefing, MFA Spokeswoman Jiang Yu confirmed that Vice Premier Wu Yi will meet President Bush, Secretary Paulson, senior Commerce Department officials and members of both houses of Congress during the second Strategic Economic Dialogue (SED) in Washington. She intends to discuss strategic and hot-topic issues, including energy, the environment, balanced economic development and science and technology innovation. Madame Wu hopes to increase Congress's understanding of China and point out the structural nature of current trade disputes. To effectively solve problems, non-economic factors should be excluded from the Talks, Jiang said, adding that China hopes the United States will use its strategic advantage to increase mutual trust and abolish the ban on high-tech exports.

Indian General's Visit to Improve Military Ties

----- --  
¶3. India's Army Chief of Staff General Singh is currently visiting China where he is meeting with government and military leaders, stated Jiang. She added that China hopes the visit will further develop bilateral military relations, continue the trend of greater exchanges and promote the two countries' friendly strategic partnership.

Human Rights: EU Dialogue, No Info on Hu Jia  
-----

¶4. The 23rd round of the China-EU Human Rights Dialogue was held in Berlin May 15-16 in a constructive nature and with positive achievements, Jiang said. She stated that parties agreed to maintain momentum and increase cooperation and that the 24th round will be held in Beijing later this year. Asked for details on the detention of AIDS activist Hu Jia and his wife Zeng Jinyan, the spokeswoman responded that she had no information on this specific case.

A/S Hill to Visit China?  
-----

¶5. Asked if EAP A/S Hill will visit China considering he is currently traveling in Southeast Asia, the spokeswoman said she had no information, but would inquire on the matter.

MFA: No Details on AmCit Death in Guangdong  
-----

¶6. Asked if there would be an investigation following recent findings that the 2005 death of American citizen Darren Russell in Guangdong was not an accident as previously claimed by local authorities, Jiang said she was unaware of the case and referred questions to the Guangdong authorities.

BEIJING 00003466 002.2 OF 002

More Tainted Chinese Exports in Latin America  
-----

¶7. Jiang had no details regarding reports of Chinese-made toothpaste in the Dominican Republic tainted with diethylene glycol. She reiterated that China seeks to strengthen and improve regulations on quarantine and exports and enhance international cooperation and dialogue on such issues.

Africa Cooperation: Dams and Aid to Sudan  
-----

¶8. Responding to a question about recent calls from foreign NGOs for China to reassess its policies in Africa that noted the environmental impact of a dam being built in Sudan, Jiang maintained that issues between the people and government of African nations are to be addressed internally by those nations themselves. In a lengthy description of China-African cooperation, she said the dam project in Sudan is not being undertaken by the Chinese Government, but rather by a Chinese enterprise that won a contract through international bidding. Such projects consider the environmental effect on local communities and will benefit the long-term livelihood of African people, said Jiang, adding that China requires enterprises to strictly abide by relevant laws and regulations in African nations. She reiterated that financial assistance to Africa is modest, comes with no political strings attached and is tailored to the development needs of these nations.

HK Legal Reform Will Develop Gradually  
-----

¶9. British FM Beckett met with Premier Wen and FM Yang during her visit to China, promoting high level exchange and strategic dialogue while developing the two countries'

strategic partnership, replied Jiang when asked about Beckett's comments on Hong Kong. Over the past ten years China has implemented the "one country, two systems" policy allowing Hong Kong self-government. Legal reform in the region will develop gradually to maintain the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong, said the spokeswoman.

#### China-Peru Free Trade Agreement?

-----

¶10. China has conducted extensive and friendly cooperation with Latin American countries, responded Jiang to a question on whether China and Peru were soon to begin negotiations on a free trade agreement. Jiang referred specific questions on the issue to the Ministry of Commerce.

#### Visits: Germany, Cape Verde, Thailand, FM Yang to ASEM

-----

¶11. German President Horst Koehler will visit May 23-26 to mark the 25th anniversary of establishing diplomatic ties, said Jiang when asked for comment by German press. President Koehler will travel to Kunming on the 23rd, meet with President Hu, PM Wen and CPPCC Chairman Jia Qinglin on the 24-25th in Beijing and then visit Shanghai. The goals of the visit are to narrow differences, further bilateral cooperation and increase coordination on international issues, said Jiang.

¶12. FM Yang will participate in the China-EU Foreign Ministers Meeting and the 8th Asia-Europe Foreign Ministers Meeting in Hamburg, Germany, May 28-29. At the invitation of PM Wen, Thailand PM Surayud will pay an official visit from May 28-31. Cape Verde FM Borges will meet with FM Yang during an official visit soon, she added.

PICCUTA